Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED PAGE 01 USUN N 05792 011820Z 16 **ACTION IO-13** INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07 /128 W ----- 068738 R 011609Z DEC 76 FM USMISSION USUN NY TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1302 INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS USMISSION GENEVA USMISSION OECD PARIS **UNCLAS USUN 5792** E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: OGEN, UNGA, ECOSOC SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA: SECOND COMMITTEE AGENDA ITEMS 56 AND 66: DRAFT RESOLUTION ON DEBT PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

1. TRANSMITTED BELOW IS THE TEXT OF THE DRAFT RESOLUTION FORMALLY CIRCULATED ON DECEMBER 1 DEALING WITH "DEBT PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. ALTHOUGH NOT CLEAR, PRESUMABLE THIS RESOLUTION WILL BE INTRODUCED ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 3. DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE REQUESTED.. QUOTE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION

ETHIOPIA, PAKISTAN, PHILIPPINES AND SUDAN: DRAFT RESOLUTION

DEPT PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 3201 (S-VI) AND 3202 (S-VI) OF 1 MAY 1974 AND RESOLUTION 3362(S-VII) OF 16 SEPTEMBER 1975.

FURTHER RECALLING RESOLUTION 94 (IV) OF 31 MAY 1976 OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT,

NOTING WITH GRAVE CONCERN THAT HEAVY DEPT-SERVICE PAYMENTS, CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICITS STEMMING FROM MALADJUSTMENTS IN THE WORLD ECONOMY, INADEQUATE BALANCE-OF-PAYMENTS SUPPORT AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, COUPLED WITH TIGHT CONDITIONS AND THE HIGH COST OF LOANS IN INTERNATIONAL CAPITALS MARKETS AND DIFFICULTIES OF ACCESS TO MARKETS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR EXPORTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, HAVE AMONG OTHER THINGS, COMBINED TO IMPOSE A SERIOUS AND CRITICAL STRAIN ON THE IMPORT CAPACITY AND RESERVES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THUS JEOPARDIZING THEIR DEVELOPMENT PROCESS,

AWARE THAT THE DETERIORATION IN THE TERMS OF TRADE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND THE HIGH COST SHORT-TERM BORROWING THEY HAVE HAD TO RESORT TO RECENTLY HAVE SERIOUSLY AGGRAVATED THEIR DEBT BURDEN.

CONVINCED THAT THIS SITUATION FACING THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
CAN BE MITIGATED BY DECISIVE AND URGENT RELIEF MEASURES IN RESPECT
OF BOTH THEIR OFFICIAL AND COMMERCIAL DEBTS AND THAT THESE
ARE ESSENTIAL TO RESTORE THE MOMENTUM OF GROWTH LOST
DURING THE ECONOMIC CRISIS AND TO ACHIEVE THE TARGETS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY,
ACKNOWLEDGEING THAT, IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, THERE ARE SUFFICIENT COMMON ELEMENTS IN THE DEBT
SERVICING DIFFICULTIES FACED BY VARIOUS DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO
WARRANT GENERAL MEASURES TO BE ADOPTED RELATING TO THEIR
EXISTING DEBT,

RECOGNIZING THE ESPECIALLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES AND DEBT BURDEN OF THE MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED, LEAST DEVELOPED, LANDLOCKED AND ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES,

1. STRESSES THAT ALL THESE MEASURES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AND IMPLEMENTED IN A MANNER NOT PREJUDICIAL TO THE CREDITWORTHINESS UNCLASSIFIED

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OF ANY DEVELOPING COUNTRY;

2. CONSIDERS THAT IT IS INTEGRAL TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER TO GIVE A NEW ORIENTATION TO PROCEDURES OF REORGANIZATION OF DEBT OWED TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AWAY FROM THE PAST EXPERIENCE OF A PRIMARILY COMMERCIAL FRAMEWORK TOWARDS A DEVELOPMENT APPROACH:

- 3. AFFIRMS THE URGENCY OF REACHING A GENERAL AND EFFECTIVE SOL-UTION TO THE DEBT PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES;
- 4. AGREES THAT INTERNATIONAL ACTION FOR DEBT RELIEF SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:
- (A) OFFICIAL DEBTS:
- (I) BILATERAL DEBT OWED TO DEVELOPED COUNTRIES:
- A. THE LEAST DEVELOPED, DEVELOPING LAND-LOCKED AND DEVELOPING ISLAND COUNTRIES SHOULD HAVE THEIR OFFICIAL DEBTS CONVERTED INTO GRANTS:
- B. OTHER MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES SHOULD RECEIVE THE SAME TREATMENT AS ABOVE, OR AS A MINIMUM, SHOULD HAVE THEIR OUTSTANDING OFFICIAL DEBTS RECOMPUTED AT THE PRESENT TERMS OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION WITH A MINIMUM GRANT ELEMENT OF 90 PERCENT:
- C. DEBT RELIEF SHOULD ALSO BE PROVIDED BY DEVELOPED BILATERAL CREDITORS AND DONORS TO OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SEEKING RELIEF;
- (II) MULTILATERAL DEBTS:

MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS SHOULD PROVIDE PROGRAMME ASSISTANCE TO EACH MOST SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRY, LEAST DEVELOPED, ISLAND AND LAND-LOCKED DEVELOPING COUNTRY IN AN AMOUNTNO LESS THAN ITS DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS TO THESE INSTITUTIONS. IN THE CASE OF OTHER INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND TO THE EXTENT SOUGHT BY SUCH COUNTRIES, MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS SHOULD PROVIDE PROGRAMME ASSISTANCE TO THEM IN AN AMOUNT NO LESS THAN THEIR SERVICE PAYMENTS TO THESE INSTITUTIONS;

(B) COMMERCIAL DEBTS:

(I) INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT SHOULD BE REACHED TO CONSOLIDATE DEBTS OF INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO RESCHEDULE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAYMENTS OVER A PERIOD OF AT LEAST 25 YEARS;
(II) THE CONSOLIDATION OF COMMERCIAL DEBTS AND THE RESCHEDULING OF PAYMENTS SHOULD BE ACHIEVED BY THE FUNDING OF THE COMMERCIAL DEBTS OF THE INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES;
(III) A FINANCIAL FACILITY TO REFINANCE THE BURDENSOME SHORT-TERM OANS SUCH AS THOSE CONTRACTED IN RECENT YEARS SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR THE USE OF INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES;
(IV) WITH RESPECT TO COMMERCIAL DEBTS CONTRACTED THROUGH

(IV) WITH RESPECT TO COMMERCIAL DEBTS CONTRACTED THROUGH FINANCIAL MARKETS OR CREDIT INSTITUTIONS BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SEEKING DEBT RELIEF, TWO POSSIBLE RELIEF SOLUTIONS MAY BE APPLIED:

A. THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF CREDIT INSTITUTIONS SHOULD ADOPT MEASURES TO PERSUADE THESE INSTITUTIONS TO RESCHEDULE OR REFINANCE THE TOTAL CAPITAL

AND INTEREST DUE. THIS REFINANCING SHOULD BE MADE AT THE LOWEST MARKET RATES, OR AT THE ORIGINAL RATE, WHICHEVER IS MORE VAROURABLE TO THE DEBTOR. THE AMORTIZATION PERIOD SHOULD BE AT LEAST THE SAME AS FOR THE ORIGINAL OPERATION BEING REFINANCED AT THE TIME OF SUCH REFINANCING:

- B. THE GRANT OF A LOAN AND INTEREST SUBSIDY BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE DEVELOPED CREDITOR COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE RESCHEDULING OF THE OFFICIAL DEBT OF THE DEBTOR COUNTRY FOR REFINANCING OF THE PRIVATE FINANCIAL DEBTS OF THE COUNTRY. THE AMOUNT OF THIS LOAN SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO THE CAPITAL AND INTEREST DUE AND SHOULD BE ON THE SAME CONDITIONS ESTABLISHED FOR THE RESCHEDULING OF THE PUBLIC DEBT;
- 5. FURTHER AGREES THAT FUTHER DEBT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONALLY AGREED DEVELOPMENT TARGETS, NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CO-OPERATION, AND DEBT REORGANIZATION OF INTERESTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE OBJECTIVES, PROCEDURES AND INSTITUTIONS EVOLVED FOR THE ABOVE PURPOSE;
- 6. URGES THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC
 CO-OPERATION TO REACH AN EARLY AGREEMENT ON THE QUESTION OF IMMEDIATE
 AND GENERALIZED DEBT RELIEF OF THE OFFICIAL DEBTS OF THE MOST
 SERIOUSLY AFFECTED COUNTRIES, LEAST DEVELOPED, LAND-LOCKED AND
 ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND ON THE REORGANIZATION OF THE ENTIRE
 SYSTEM OF DEBT RENEGOTIATIONS TO GIVE IT A DEVELOPMENT RATHER
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THAN A COMMERCIAL ORIENTATION;

7. REQUESTS THE MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT TO BE HELD IN 1977 TO REVIEW RESULTS
OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS QUESTION IN OTHER FORMS AND TO REACH AGREEMENT ON CONCRETE MEASURES TO PROVIDE AN IMMEDIATE SOLUTION TO THE DEBT PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
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